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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **MAX
PLANCK GESELLSCHAFT ZUR FÖRDERUNG
DER WISSENSCHAFTEN E.V.** [DE/DE]; Berlin (DE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **LÜDEMANN**,
Alexander [DE/DE]; Mühlenstrasse 2a, 14482 Potsdam
(DE). **ERBAN**, Alexander [DE/DE]; Greifenhagener
Strasse 45, 10437 Berlin (DE). **WAGNER**, Cornelia
[DE/DE]; Böhmerwaldstrasse 2, 82377 Penzberg (DE).
KOPKA, Joachim [DE/DE]; Christburger Str. 2, 10405
Berlin (DE).

(74) Agent: **VOSSIUS & PARTNER**; Siebertstrasse 4, 81675
Munich (DE).

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(54) Title: METHOD FOR ANALYSING METABOLITES

(57) Abstract: Described is a method for analysing the metabolites of a biological sample which comprises quantitatively determin-
ing one or more metabolites in said sample in a way that said quantitative determination resolves isotopic mass differences within one
metabolite, said method being characterized in that the sample comprises or is derived from a cell which has been maintained under
conditions allowing the uptake of an isotopically labeled metabolizable compound so that the metabolites in said cell are saturated
with the isotope with which said metabolizable compound is labeled. This method may further comprise, prior to quantitative deter-
mining the metabolites, combining the biological sample (i.e. the first biological sample) with a second biological sample in which
the metabolites are not isotopically labeled or are isotopically labeled differently from the first biological sample; and determining
in said biological samples the relative quantity of metabolites which differ by their isotopical label. Furthermore described is a set
of isotopically labeled metabolites obtainable by applying this method, as well as kits facilitating the application of this method and
corresponding uses.



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